

# The Providence Report

**Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth**

**Fairfax County Board of Supervisors**

**Volume XVII, Issue II**

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## 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Merrifield Fall Festival

Saturday, October 16, 2010

From 11AM – 4PM

Luther Jackson Middle School  
3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church

The Greater Merrifield Business Association welcomes residents to the Sixth Annual Merrifield Fall Festival. Come enjoy a day filled with sights and sounds of Merrifield featuring fun for the whole family: Food, carnival rides, face painting, pumpkin painting, shopping, handmade crafts, live entertainment including the Tom Principato Band, Ronald McDonald, and the Cardinal Cloggers. Back by popular demand is the County Environmental Health interactive booth with useful resource materials about the various environmental impacts on our community and what residents can do as caretakers of our environment. In addition, kids will learn about food safety, Lyme disease, and so much more! Also new this year, updates on development from Merrifield Developers. Entry to the Festival is free. If it rains events will be moved indoors. For more information search Greater Merrifield Fall Festival on Facebook.com. ▪

## New Library Hours

Effective July 1, public libraries in Fairfax County will be operating under new hours. A complete list of County libraries, their locations and hours is available at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/) and shown below.

### ► Regional Libraries:

Sunday: 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Monday and Wednesday: 1:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 10:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Thursday and Friday: 10 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### ► Community Libraries:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday: 1:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. ▪

## A message from Supervisor Smyth

I would like to begin by thanking all of our residents who participated in the Fiscal Year 2011 budget process, which kicked off last fall with a series of community dialogue meetings. Your suggestions at those meetings, comments through the county website, questions at the spring budget discussions, and testimony at the public hearings in April shaped the Board of Supervisors' difficult decisions that had to be made to deal with the projected shortfall in revenues. The resulting Adopted Budget for 2011 can be viewed at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb). The same website also has information on the next round of public involvement for the upcoming FY 2012 budget. I urge everyone to join in these forums to help us set our future community funding priorities.

Balancing the 2011 budget required reductions in many county programs and services. County staff has been cut and salaries were frozen for the second consecutive year. Here in the Providence District Supervisor's office, we have continued to hold down staffing (Providence has the smallest district office) as well as our expenses. Last year I returned over **\$102,000** of my office's annual budget to the General Fund. This year I have increased that amount to **\$109,822**. This reduction represents 25.8% of the total funds allocated to our office and is the largest amount returned to the General Fund by any Supervisor.

While we are seeing some signs of improvement in the economy, we know that we are still likely to face revenue shortfalls next year. I look forward to working with you to meet these challenges as we have met those in the past. ▪

~ **Linda Smyth**



## 2010 Providence District VolunteerFest®

Supervisor Smyth is delighted to host the 2010 Providence District VolunteerFest® on October 23 in conjunction with Volunteer Fairfax's County-wide VolunteerFest® and National Make a Difference Day. The week long 2010 Providence VolunteerFest® projects will kick off at the sixth Annual Merrifield Festival on October 16 at Luther Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church - 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Greater Merrifield Business Association welcomes residents to the sixth Annual Merrifield Festival. Come enjoy a day filled with the sights and sounds of Merrifield featuring family fun for all ages; food, carnival rides, a fire truck train, face painting, Rockwall climb and pumpkin painting. Back by popular demand is the County Environmental Health interactive booth with useful resource materials about the various environmental impacts on our community and what residents can do as caretakers of our environment. Kids are welcome - learn about food safety, Lyme disease, hands on bugs, make your own tick, and more! Entry to the Festival is free and will be held rain or shine. Events will be moved indoors if it rains.

**All projects will take place on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, unless indicated otherwise**

- **Food Drive** - Supervisor Smyth's office and Food for Others. Non perishable food donations may be dropped off all day from **October 13 - 22** at Supervisor Smyth's office 8739 Lee Highway, Fairfax.
- **Used Books about ART & Horses to be Sold** - Friends of the Oakton Library at the Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton - on **Saturday, October 23 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.** Proceeds to benefit programs at the Oakton Library.
- **Easy Readers** - A program for first and second grade boys who need reading reinforcement - Oakton Library Saturday October 23 from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. prior registration is required to participate. For information, contact Michael Luciani at [easyreaders@gmail.com](mailto:easyreaders@gmail.com).
- **Oakton Community Park - October 23, 10:30 am to noon** (Weather Permitting) Riding Demonstration by Spirit Open Equestrian Program <http://www.spiritquestrian.org/index.html>  
Sponsored by **Fairfax4Horses**.
- **Mini Golf** - Greater Merrifield Business Association (GMBA), Police Department and Park Authority host mentorship mini golf with selected Fairfax County Public School students from 9:00 a.m. - noon.
- **Neighborhood Park Projects** - Fairfax County Park Authority hosts projects at Providence District Parks including Borge St. (spreading wood chips, fence repair, weed removal) & Nottoway Park (removal of invasive plants) Details are available by calling Katherine Frederick 703-324-8681, TTY 711.
- **Soldier Care Packages** - James Lee Community Center 2855-A James Lee Street, Falls Church - packages for soldiers serving abroad will be prepared from 10:00 a.m. - noon.
- **Event Promotions** - The Providence Players at James Lee Community Center Theater 2855-A James Lee Street, Falls Church. Open their 2010-2011 Season October 8th, with the production of Noel Coward's "Waiting in the Wings".

Supervisor Smyth and the 2010 Providence District VolunteerFest® Committee invite all residents to participate in this year's activities. More information is available on the 2010 VolunteerFest® Web site at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/providence/events.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/providence/events.htm) or by calling 703-560-6946, TTY 711 or on the Volunteer Fairfax website at [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org) or by calling 703-246-3460, TTY 711. ■

## Fairfax County's Own "Cookie Lady" Participates in VolunteerFest®



For almost 7 years Germaine Broussard has been baking cookies for troops serving overseas from her small apartment kitchen in McLean Virginia earning the name "The Cookie Lady." She started baking for the troops in December of 2003 realizing that baking was something she did and could share. She started small, sending cookies and care packages to a few individual service members and eventually branched out adopting two different Navy ships, an entire battalion of Marines and the number of troops benefiting continues to grow – she has now sent over 100,000 cookies to troops bravely serving overseas.

Her efforts were so welcomed that she has now created TroopTreats.com, an IRS certified 501(c)-3 charity which allows her to receive tax deductible donations to go towards baking supplies as well as a long list of other items identified by the soldiers such as personal care items, phone cards, books and puzzles and the postage to mail these items. There is no overhead cost - all funds donated go to items sent to the soldiers in the field.

Currently Germaine is partnering with the Providence District Supervisor's office to conduct a care package event which will involve filling, packing and mailing donated items to approximately 3000 soldiers. This event will be held as part of Providence District VolunteerFest® which is conducted annually in conjunction with Volunteer Fairfax's County-wide VolunteerFest® and National Make a Difference Day. Volunteers are needed for the packing event which will be held on Saturday, October 23 at the James Lee Community Center.

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## "Cookie Lady"

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Prior to that, donations of items for the care packages will be gratefully accepted at the Providence District Supervisor's Office, the James Lee Center or at a table at the Merrifield Festival on Saturday, October 16. Cash donations for the Providence District VolunteerFest event are also welcome and may be made through TroopTreats.com or by mail to Troop Treats, P.O. Box 11192, McLean, VA 22102. For a list of items needed for the care packages or additional information about this or other VolunteerFest activities, please call the Supervisor's office at 703-560-6946, TTY 711. ▪

## Consolidation Creates New Department of Neighborhood and Community Services

As part of the FY 2011 budget process, the Department of Community and Recreation Services and the Department of Systems Management for Human Services were consolidated and became the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services. This was done in order to maximize operational efficiencies, redesign access and delivery of services and strengthen neighborhood and community capacity. This consolidation resulted in a savings of \$921,915 and reduction of 10 positions which was possible because of significant efficiencies gained through restructuring, cross-training of existing staff and streamlining of existing operations.

The mission of the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services is to engage, connect and collaborate with individuals, organizations, neighborhoods and communities to strategically plan, provide responsive services and build capacity to support community and neighborhood solutions.

The consolidation process is currently underway. For a list of the services that the Department will provide and additional information as the consolidation progresses, please visit the County's website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/) or call 703-324-4600, TTY 711. ▪

## **PARK AUTHORITY AREA 7 MANAGER JOHN HOPKINS RETIRES**



After more than 35 years of service to the Fairfax County Park Authority, Area 7 Manager John Hopkins retired this summer. John's career has included positions at Frying Pan Farm Park, Lake Accotink, Jefferson District Park, and Mason District Park before assuming the duties of Area 7 Manager. In this position he was responsible for 32 park sites which included sites within the Providence District.

John was well known for his invaluable support of Nottoway Park events including Nottoway Nights, annual egg hunt, IMA program, car shows, elections, and in past years, the carnival and farmers' market. The latter moved to Oak Marr where John carried on his support. In addition, John was a key participant in the annual Providence VolunteerFest®, representing the Park Authority and arranging for Park Authority support for this popular event.

During his career, John has seen the County park system expand explosively, watched playing fields turn from sod to synthetic turf, and encountered many challenges from weather to budgetary, all the while carrying on a remarkable dedication to maintaining the parks in his care and putting forth efforts, often on his own time, to provide quality park facilities and services to the public. In this regard he has been frequently complimented by the public, co-workers, other County employees, and volunteers. As one volunteer said, "John is not only dedicated, responsive, reliable and resourceful with a great work ethic, he is a very sweet person, always smiling and optimistic."

We wish John the best in retirement which, fortunately for all of us, includes returning as a park volunteer, beginning at Nottoway Park and maybe others within Providence. Give him a hello, handshake and thanks when you next see him. ■

## **Nottoway Park Habitat Restoration Project**

Save the trees, get your workout and learn invasive species removal techniques! Volunteer to remove invasive plants that threaten trees and wildlife habitat, and help restore woodlands with native plantings at Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna.

Bring family and friends or a group from the office. Students and scouts, do you need community service hours? Looking for a scout service project? Parkland habitat restoration is the program for you.

The Fall workday is on Saturday October 23 from 9 AM to noon (rain date: October 30). Work will take place during light rain but will be cancelled in the event of thunder, lightning and/or heavy rain.

More information is available on the Fairfax County Park Authority's IMA (Invasive Management Area) Program web site at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources/ima](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources/ima) by calling 703-324-8681, TTY 711 or emailing [friendsofnottoway@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofnottoway@gmail.com). ■

## **Watershed Management Plan Development**

Fairfax County would like to invite the public to participate in a series of open forums and assist in the development of seven draft watershed management plans. A watershed management plan serves as a tool to identify and address the issues impacting our environment, with the ultimate goal being the protection and restoration of county streams and other water resources. These benefits will help meet Fairfax County's goals for water quality and stream improvements, and provide a positive impact on the condition of our watersheds.

Meeting information can be accessed through the Watershed Management Plan Announcements website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/watersheds/announcements.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/watersheds/announcements.htm). Providence District includes areas affected by the Accotink Creek Watershed Management Plan. ■



Wolftrap Bridge Ribbon Cutting, June 19, 2010. The new fiberglass pedestrian and bicycle bridge links the two sections of Wolftrap Road near Kilmer Middle School in Dunn Loring. ■

## New Park Acquisition The Ruckstuhl Property

The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) seeks input about its pending acquisition of new parkland on Idylwood Road in Falls Church. The Park Authority is negotiating with the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust to acquire seven acres of land and applied for a federal grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for a portion of the funding necessary to purchase the land. Federal regulations require a public input process for the acquisition.

While the public comment on the acquisition of the Ruckstuhl property has past, FCPA has offered to receive comments for future planning purposes. Please send your comments to David Bowden, director, Planning & Development Division, Fairfax County Park Authority, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 406, Fairfax, VA, 22035. Comments also can be e-mailed [parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov).

After acquisition, the new parkland will go through FCPA's regular master planning process to consider what types of uses and amenities (for example, trails, gardens, etc) will be permitted. FCPA will hold public hearings for citizens during the master planning process to provide further opportunity for public input. ■

## Planning for FY 2012 Budget

While the difficult FY 2011 budget process seemed to go on forever, the county already is looking toward the FY 2012 financial planning process. We want to thank all of you who participated in advising us of your priorities as we considered how to fund all the elements that make up the County government, from those that are mandated such as public safety and public works to those that contribute to our quality of life such as our parks and libraries. The drastic reduction in money available for FY 2011 was brought about by a number of issues including the continuing reduction in property values and consumer spending. This created a corresponding reduction in revenue coming into the county and resulted in many programs being reduced or eliminated while the county staff's salaries were frozen for the second year.

While we don't anticipate the reduction to be as drastic for FY 2012, we will still have to be frugal when considering how to apply the available funds. We need you to participate in this process. The schedule for this outreach will be discussed at the Board of Supervisors meetings in September with the first Community Dialogues scheduled in the October timeframe followed by numerous Town Hall and other community engagement events in the spring. It is anticipated that a video program on the budget will be developed and aired on Channel 16 and available for on-line viewing. Updates to these events will be available at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb) or you may call the Providence District Supervisor's office at anytime at 703-560-6946, TTY 711 and we can help you identify a way to participate that is most convenient for you. ■

## One Stop Shopping at the Department of Code Compliance

The Department of Code Compliance became operational on July 1, 2010 as a unified agency of consolidated code enforcement programs with the mission of investigating neighborhood quality of life complaints. This department consolidated the staffing and services of the former "Strike Team", Zoning Enforcement Branch from the Department of Planning and Zoning and the former Code Enforcement Branch from the Land Development Section of the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services.

You now have one location to report various types of concerns and may do so on the County's website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code/) or by calling 703-324-1300, TTY 711. You may also search the history of complaints that have been filed at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/codeenforcementinquiry/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/codeenforcementinquiry/).

DCC investigates complaints dealing with Animals & Pets, Building Lots & Land Use, Construction, Hoarding, Noise, Property Maintenance, Outdoor Lighting, Signs, and Vehicles & Parking. ■

## Upcoming November Elections

The November 2, 2010 elections will have on the ballot three members of the U.S. House of Representatives, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> Districts, three proposed Constitutional Amendments and a Fairfax County Bond Referendum. Polls will be open from 6:00 am – 7:00 pm and you will vote at your regular polling place EXCEPT:

Voters in the **Providence District, Precinct 706, Greenway**, who normally vote at the Devonshire Administrative Center will vote at the **Timber Lane Elementary School, 2737 West Street, Falls Church**. This is a temporary polling place to be used while the Devonshire Admin Center is undergoing reconstruction. The reconstruction is expected to be completed the summer of 2012.

**Voter ID Requirement** - Voters are reminded that legislation adopted by the 2000 Virginia General Assembly requires them to provide ID at the polls (or to sign an Affirmation of Identify) in order to vote. Acceptable forms of ID may be found at the County's website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb)

**Absentee Voting** – If you will be away from Fairfax County on Election Day or are unable to go to the polls because of illness or disability, you may vote by absentee ballot by mail or in person. For additional information please visit the County's website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb)

**Please report Change of Name or Address** - To remain a qualified registered voter, the law requires you to notify your local voter registration office of any change in your name or address. This must be done before the registration books close for the next election. The deadline is 29 days prior to any general or primary election and 13 days before a special election. You can submit your notice of change of name and/or address either by mail (12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 323, Fairfax, Virginia 22035-0081) or by fax (703-324-2205). In either case, the notice must include your signature to be valid. Notice cannot be made by telephone or by email. After your change is processed, you will be mailed a new Voter Information Card. If a new card does not arrive within a few weeks, please call 703-222-0776 to confirm that your notice was received.

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## **Candidates** – Member, House of Representatives

### 8<sup>th</sup> District

J. Patrick Murray – R  
James P. “Jim” Moran, Jr. – D  
J. Ron Fisher – IG

### 10<sup>th</sup> District

Frank R. Wolf – R  
Jeffery R. Barnett – D  
William B. Redpath – L

### 11<sup>th</sup> District

Keith S. Fimian – R  
Gerald E. “Gerry” Connolly – D  
David William Gills, Jr. –IG  
David L. Dotson – L  
Christopher F. DeCarlo – I

## **Proposed Constitutional Amendments:**

Question 1: Shall Section 6 of Article X of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to authorize legislation that will permit localities to establish their own income or financial worth limitations for purposes of granting property tax relief for homeowners not less than 65 years of age or permanently and totally disabled? Yes or No

Question 2: Shall the Constitution be amended to require the General Assembly to provide a real property tax exemption for the principal residence of a veteran, or his or her surviving spouse, if the veteran has a 100 percent service connected permanent, and total disability? Yes or No

Question 3: Shall Section 8 of Article X of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to increase the permissible size of the Revenue Stabilization Fund (also known as the “rainy day fund”) from 10 percent to 15 percent of the Commonwealth's average annual tax revenues derived from income and retail sales taxes for the preceding three fiscal years? Yes or No

**Fairfax County Bond Referendum:** Shall the Board of Supervisors contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia, in addition to the bonds previously authorized for transportation improvements and facilities, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$120,000,000 for the purpose of providing funds to finance the cost of constructing, reconstructing, improving and acquiring transportation improvements, including improvements to primary and secondary State highways, off-street parking, pedestrian improvements, and ancillary related improvements and facilities, and including capital costs of land, transit facilities, rolling stock and equipment in the Washington metropolitan area allocable to Fairfax County, Virginia pursuant to the provisions of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Compact? ■

## County Staff Safeguards Interests of Residential Utility Customers

Two staff members in Fairfax County's Department of Cable and Consumer Services, Public Utility Branch (PUB) represent the County's interest on public utility regulatory issues before State (State Corporation Commission) and Federal regulatory authorities in public utilities rate hearings or other regulatory proceedings. Staff prepares and presents testimony most beneficial to the County and its residents. Other notable responsibilities of the PUB staff are negotiating contracts for electricity rates and services for County government, serving as principal supporting staff on the County's new energy efficiency and conservation coordinating committee, managing the County's \$9.6 million Energy Efficiency and Conservation Combined Block program with the Department of Energy, advising the Board and County agencies on regulatory and legislative issues affecting public utilities, and analyzing and recommending rates for taxicab service and the appropriate number of taxicabs in Fairfax County.

In a recent utility proceeding, the Board of Supervisors authorized Public Utility Branch staff to participate in the Dominion Virginia Power rate case, in which the company had asked for a \$289 million (9.3%) annual rate increase. The PUB staff prepared and presented testimony at the hearings held in January and February of 2010. The largest issue in the case was Dominion's allowed rate of return and PUB staff's testimony was the only testimony presented at the hearing representing residential ratepayers. Staff's participation contributed to a favorable settlement of the case resulting in \$726 million in total customer savings over a four year period over the company's original proposal.

The SCC's final order of March 11, 2010 resulted in customers receiving an 8.6% rate decrease over rates paid since September 1, 2009. A typical residential customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours a month will pay \$99.07 compared to the current monthly bill of \$108.36 that included the interim rate increase. In addition, customers of Dominion Virginia Power received bill credits on their May/June bills that reflect the savings achieved by the settlement and final order in this proceeding. These credits comprised more than 40% of customers' monthly bills. It is estimated that the final order in the case will save Fairfax County customers of Dominion Virginia Power over \$130 million in the period 2010 to 2013 (or an average of \$32.5 million per year) when compared to the rates Dominion originally proposed.

Staff in the Public Utilities Branch continues to monitor public utility cases at the State Corporation Commission in order to safeguard the interests of Fairfax County customers of public utility services. For more information about the Public Utilities Branch, please visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer/public\\_utilities.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer/public_utilities.htm) or call 703-222-8435, TTY 711. ■

### Snow Removal Information

Public roads in Fairfax County are owned and maintained by the Commonwealth of Virginia. When the snow and ice of winter arrives later this year, call 703-383-VDOT (8368), TTY 800-432-1843, or send an e-mail to [novainfo@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:novainfo@vdot.virginia.gov) to request snow removal in Northern Virginia. VDOT dispatchers are available to take your call 24 hours a day.

More information can be found online in the VDOT Snow Removal brochure at [www.virginiadot.org/about/resources/NoVA-Snow-Brochure.pdf](http://www.virginiadot.org/about/resources/NoVA-Snow-Brochure.pdf). ■



### Sewer Rate Increase

Fairfax County has increased its sewer rates from \$4.50 to \$5.27 per thousand gallons. For the average customer, the new rate results in an increase of approximately a \$5.00 per month. Even with this increase, Fairfax sewer rates are the second lowest in the D.C. metropolitan region.

Environmental compliance and investing in aging infrastructure are the two pressing needs that drove the increase. New regulations to reduce pollution by 2013 in the Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River require purchases of new technology. Also, because some components of the sewer system date back to the 1950's and 1960's, there are pipes and pumping stations that are nearing the end of their usefulness. It is time to improve the system to avoid hazards in the future like sewage surcharging back into homes or leaking into rivers. By making these improvements, Fairfax County waste treatment will continue to be among the best in the nation. ■

## Tysons Corner Plan Approved

On June 22, 2010 the Board of Supervisors approved updates to the comprehensive land use plan and zoning ordinance for the Tysons Corner Planning Area. The Board also adopted 20 follow on motions to guide progress of implementation of the plan. The plan envisions Tysons as home for up to 100,000 residents and 200,000 jobs by 2050. The plan has been designed to take advantage of the four new Metro stations coming to Tysons in 2013 with 75 percent of future growth occurring within a half mile of these new metro stations. Some rezoning applications have already been submitted to the county proposing development focused around the future Metro stations. For more details about the updated plan, zoning ordinance and the Board's 20 follow on motions, please visit the website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/tysonscorner/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/tysonscorner/).

## Metro West/Vienna Metro Station Redevelopment Update

Pulte, the primary developer of the MetroWest mixed use project, initiated site work and construction of infrastructure improvements late this past spring and early summer. The new Vaden Drive extended, connecting the Vienna Metro Station with Lee Highway, will be completed and opened prior to occupancy of the new homes. Completion of the entire project will take several years.

Pulte plans to start sales of the new townhomes in February or March of 2011 with construction starting the second quarter of 2011. Occupancy of the townhomes is anticipated during the last quarter of 2011. Construction of the two over two townhomes will start the third or fourth quarter of 2011. For information on development approvals see <http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/ZAPSmmain.aspx?cde=RZ&seq=4056975>.

Reconstruction and upgrades to Saintsbury Drive and the Vienna Metro Station will begin in the spring of 2011. Pulte in coordination with WMATA will continue to keep the public informed about construction that may affect pedestrian and vehicular access to and from the south side of the Vienna Metro Station. Pulte and WMATA will be posting updates on site and on their websites to keep residents informed about changes to access.

## Oakton Updates

A new rezoning application for the "Sunrise" property located off of Old Blake Lane has been submitted to the county. The zoning application (RZ 2010-PR-010) proposes to redevelop the 7.4 acre site with 35 single family townhomes. This proposal, if approved, would eliminate the previously approved Special Exception for the property that would have resulted in the development of 122 senior independent living units developed in a single building.

## Merrifield Updates

The developers of three approved mixed use projects in the Providence District, including redevelopment of the Dunn Loring Metro Station by Trammell Crow Residential (aka *Mill Creek Residential*), the DFS Long Merrifield Halstead mixed use project and the Merrifield Town Center (Mosaic at Merrifield), are all moving forward with construction of their respective projects.

The Trammell Crow project located at the Dunn Loring Metro station is planned to break ground before the end of this year. The Development and Construction Division of Trammell Crow Residential has been renamed Mill Creek Residential. Mill Creek representatives have finalized a lease with Harris Teeter for a 52,000 square foot grocery store on the ground floor of the new residential building. For information on development approvals see <http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/ZAPSmmain.aspx?cde=RZ&seq=4066077>.

The BOS approved a parking reduction (based on proximity to the Metro station and shared retail use) this past August for the DFS Long project located south of the Dunn Loring Metro station. They have started construction of the first of four buildings. The residential buildings will have ground floor retail. Two new roads serving the development will connect Gallows Road to Merrilee Drive to the west. For information on development approvals see <http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/ZAPSmmain.aspx?cde=RZ&seq=4087593>.

Edens & Avant, the developer of *Mosaic at Merrifield*, has begun construction of the Merrifield Town Center. They demolished the movie theater this past summer and are starting construction of the first phase of the development that will include an urban two story Target, a boutique hotel and additional retail development fronting Lee Highway. Concurrently, Eskridge Road will be realigned and upgraded to connect to Lee Highway to form a new intersection with Merrilee Drive.

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The County is working to complete the comprehensive planned connection of Merrilee Drive to Williams Drive (and Route 50) to the south. This crucial connection will allow direct access to the Dunn Loring Metro Station without having to use Gallows Road or Prosperity Avenue. For information on development approvals see <http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/ZAPSmain.aspx?cde=RZ&seq=4086975>.

### **Nutley Street Road Improvements**

The bank and pharmacy under construction across Nutley Street from the Pan Am Shopping Center will include long needed road safety improvements on Nutley Street. In addition to new turning lanes serving the development, a new median will be constructed that will prevent south bound drivers from turning left into the first entrance of the Pan Am Shopping Center. Pending VDOT final approval, a new traffic light will be installed on Nutley Street to manage access into and out of the new pharmacy/bank and the Pan Am Shopping Center. For information on development approvals see <http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/ZAPSmain.aspx?cde=SE&seq=4090281>.

### **Woodburn Center for Community Mental Health and Inova Fairfax Hospital Campus Special Planning Study**

To ensure that the County accommodates future medical and mental health needs, the Board of Supervisors directed the Department of Planning and Zoning on January 7, 2008 to convene a Special Study Task Force to review, discuss and provide community input for revising the comprehensive land use plan of Woodburn Center for Community Mental Health and the adjoining County and Inova owned properties and the Inova Fairfax Hospital Campus. The Task Force comprised of community representatives held meetings over the past two years and provided community input. On July 27, 2010 the Board of Supervisors approved Plan Amendment ST08-I-MS1 that will guide future expansion of the Hospital and permit the relocation of Woodburn Center for Community and Mental Health. For additional information see [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/woodburn\\_inova.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/woodburn_inova.htm).

On July 27, 2010 the Board also authorized the advertisement of a public hearing, to be held before the Board on September 28, 2010, at 3:30 pm regarding a proposed real estate transaction with Inova to relocate the Woodburn Center for Community and Mental Health to a new site north of the hospital and south and east of the intersection of Ft. 50 and Williams Drive. For additional information see [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/summary/2010/10-07-27.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/summary/2010/10-07-27.pdf). ■

## **Support Your Passion**

The County would not be the vibrant place it is without the support of our residents. During the community budget meetings and on other occasions, people have asked how they can individually support programs in the county. There are four recognized Foundations in the County as follows:

► **Fairfax County Park Foundation:** Supports the Fairfax County Park Authority by raising private funds, obtaining grants and creating partnerships that supplement tax dollars to meet our community's needs for park land, facilities and services. For more information please visit [www.fxparcs.org/](http://www.fxparcs.org/)

► **Fairfax Education Foundation:** Endeavors to improve education by designing, managing, and funding programs that integrate technology into school curriculum and teaching practices. By partnering with businesses, the Foundation seeks to ensure every student has competency and facility in technology that will lead to a successful career. For more information please visit [www.fairfaxeducation.org/](http://www.fairfaxeducation.org/)

► **Fairfax Library Foundation:** Exists to raise supplementary funds for the Fairfax County Public Library and is committed to seeking financial gifts from individuals, organizations, foundations, businesses and corporations who have a vested interest in the quality of life of Fairfax County while encouraging continued and increased public tax-based support for the library. For additional information please visit [www.fcplfoundation.org/](http://www.fcplfoundation.org/)

► **Fairfax County Law Enforcement Foundation:** Provides leadership, innovation, equipment and support for programs and services to the Fairfax County Police Departments. For additional information please visit [www.fairfaxfoundation.org](http://www.fairfaxfoundation.org)

In addition to the Foundations, many people want to support county services but can't afford to give funds and prefer to give their time. There are a myriad of opportunities available by going to the County's website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/). ■

## **Transportation Matters**

### **Funding Crisis**

The public roads from cul-de-sacs to highways in Fairfax County are owned and maintained by the Commonwealth of Virginia. Funding for our roads is appropriated by the General Assembly and administered by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). For example, the funding level for 2004-2009 was \$153.4 million. In contrast, that number declined in 2009 to \$11.9 million. For 2011-2016, VDOT has allocated \$1,989 for Fairfax. In other words, VDOT funding in Fairfax will be \$331.50 per year, which will buy one stop sign with a little change leftover.

The funding crisis will continue until the governor and members of the General Assembly provide dedicated sources of revenue for long-term maintenance and capital projects. The Board of Supervisors will continue to address transportation policy and urge our local members of the General Assembly to resolve this longstanding failure to adequately deliver basic maintenance and traffic congestion-reducing projects to our region.

### **Traffic Calming**

One direct impact of the funding crisis that Providence residents are being told for the first time in the more than 13 years since the Residential Traffic Administration Program (RTAP) began that their traffic calming projects may not be completed due to a lack of funding. This means that plans for speed humps, multi-way stop signs, watch-for-children signs, and other measures included within the RTAP ([www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/rtap.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/rtap.htm)) may need to be shelved until a funding source can be identified.

There are currently 24 projects that are in the queue for implementation with limited funds remaining from past program years. However, the lack of state funding also results in the need for the County to seek out contractors to install the devices. Without state crews, the traffic calming projects may cost more.

### **HOT Lanes**

The I-495 widening project is visible to most Providence residents on a daily basis. The project is largely on time and anticipated to be concluded in December 2012. For more information on the project, please visit the Virginia Megaproject website at [www.vamegaprojects.com/](http://www.vamegaprojects.com/). Alternatively, please contact Ms. Jamie C. Breme at 571-483-2638 or [J.Breme@vamegaprojects.com](mailto:J.Breme@vamegaprojects.com).

### **Idylwood Road Bridge Closure (HOT Lanes)**

As some of you have already noticed, the bridge over I-495 at Idylwood Road has been closed for demolition and reconstruction. The work is scheduled to be completed in six months, but weather at the end of the construction season could result in a lengthier closure. In contrast to the tardy reopening of the bridge at Oak Street, Fluor-Lane has opted to forgo the use of a subcontractor and do the work itself. For details please check online for details at [www.virginiahotlanes.com/uploads/1000/655-10AUG\\_Idylwood\\_Rd\\_fact\\_sheet\\_final.pdf](http://www.virginiahotlanes.com/uploads/1000/655-10AUG_Idylwood_Rd_fact_sheet_final.pdf) or contact Ms. Breme.

### **Rail to Dulles**

Similar to the HOT Lanes project, information for this Metrorail extension can be found on the Virginia Megaprojects website at [www.vamegaprojects.com/](http://www.vamegaprojects.com/). Currently, the project is running a two-month delay due to the snowstorms last winter. For more information, please contact Marcia McAllister at 703-572-0506 or [marcia.mcallister@dullesmetro.com](mailto:marcia.mcallister@dullesmetro.com). The Megaprojects website includes a feature for individuals to sign up for traffic alerts that apply to the rail extension and HOT Lanes project.

### **Lee Highway and Gallows Road**

VDOT has its bid advertisement for road construction date set for February 2011. The capacity improvement at this intersection will increase to allow for dual left-turn lanes at all legs of the intersection, as well as right-turn lanes, to better handle the traffic coming through Merrifield. Construction is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2011 and to finish by the end of 2012.

Arif Rahman, VDOT project manager, is available to answer questions by phone or e-mail. He can be reached at (703)-383-2179 or [MD.Rahman@VDOT.Virginia.gov](mailto:MD.Rahman@VDOT.Virginia.gov). For background on this project, please visit the associated website at [www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/lee\\_highway\\_and\\_gallows\\_road.asp](http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/lee_highway_and_gallows_road.asp). ■



## School News

Patricia Reed, School Board Member  
Providence District

Contact Information:  
E-mail: Patricia.Reed1@fcps.edu  
Voice Mail: 571.423.1084  
Executive Administrative Assistant:  
Debora.Cain@fcps.edu

As we begin another school year, I want to reiterate that your child remains my #1 priority and that I am a fiscal steward of your tax dollars.

I have been working hard since winning the special election in November 2009, visiting many schools throughout the county, engaging teachers, and partnering with parents to represent their concerns on budget and program issues. As a result of my partnership with parents and teachers, I am proud to say that I am the Board member that asked the greatest number of budget questions on the public's behalf during the School Board's FY2011 budget deliberations.

As we head into 2011, my focus remains on improving transparency and accountability within the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Administration and the School Board. To this extent, I am working hard for improved clarity of FCPS budget documents to increase public understanding of FCPS' \$2.2 billion budget. My attention will also focus on examining teacher compensation, capping class size, and creating opportunities that permit each child to reach his or her potential.

I am also the Board liaison to the FCPS Adult and Community Education Advisory Committee and the Fairfax Partnership for Youth. I am excited about making significant contributions in both of these areas. As part of the 2010 Providence District VolunteerFest®, Supervisor Smyth and I are working together to solicit contents for care packages for members of the United States Armed Forces. And I also plan to work closely with local businesses and other organizations that are interested in partnerships with our schools.

Of special concern to the Providence District, several endeavors will begin this fall to review school boundaries and address overcrowding. Our Annandale Regional Planning Study committee is examining options to address overcrowding at Annandale High School and Poe Middle School. Another group will also look at the need to establish an attendance area boundary for a new elementary school at the Lacey site, which is scheduled to open in fall 2012. In addition, the School Board will appoint citizens to serve on the newly created Facilities Planning Advisory Council (FPAC). FPAC will advise the Board in developing comprehensive, long-term plans for FCPS facility needs.

Some schools in the Providence District will also undergo renovation this school year. These include: Westlawn Elementary School (already underway), Oakton Elementary School and Marshall High School. These improvements are possible due to bond referenda that voters already voted for and approved. Additionally, construction for a lighted turf field will begin at Jackson Middle School. No FCPS funds are being used to construct this field.

Please continue keeping me informed of your concerns regarding these and other emerging issues, school events and achievements. If you would like to receive periodic email updates from me, please send me your email address. I am your voice on the School Board and your representative to the Superintendent. I view my position as a partnership with you! Working together, we will keep our schools, our students and our teachers among the best in the nation! ■

## Stop for School Buses - It's the Law

Now that students are back in school the yellow buses will be on the road transporting children throughout the day, including rush hours. Drivers need to remember that once a school bus stops and activates its stop lights and stop sign, other drivers on the road must stop their vehicles in both directions, unless they are separated from the bus by a physical median. This means a grass or cement median, guardrail or any other unpaved area – it DOES NOT mean when the lane is merely separated by lines on the roadway either dotted or white or even a double yellow.

Drivers assume that when there are several lanes in the same direction and the bus is loading or unloading in the far right lane they do not need to stop. This is not true. Stop unless there is some type of barrier as described above. Be alert and pay attention when approaching a school bus and be prepared to stop. This is the law, not a choice. It can lead to a very serious situation endangering children and you can be charged with reckless driving. This is not a simple traffic infraction but a Class 1 Misdemeanor which is punishable by up to 1 year in jail and/or a \$2,500 fine. ■

Providence District Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth  
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors  
8739 Lee Highway  
Fairfax, VA 22031

## The Providence Report

### Must-Have Phone Numbers

Providence District Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth

Telephone: 703-560-6946 / Fax: 703-207-3541 / TTY: 711

Adult Protective Services: 703-324-7450/ Child Protective Services: 703-324-7400

Suicide Crisis Hotline: (703) 527-4077 Rape Crisis Hotline: 1-800-656-4673

<b>Adult Education</b>	703-658-1201	<b>Alcohol/drug abuse services</b>	703-359-7040
<b>Animal Shelter</b>	703-830-1100	<b>Child care</b>	703-324-8100
<b>Consumer Affairs</b>	703-222-8435	<b>Circuit Courts</b>	703-691-7320
<b>Dept. of Motor Vehicles</b>	804-497-7100	<b>I-66 Disposal Sites</b>	703-631-1179
<b>Emergency</b>	911	<b>Fastran</b>	703-222-9764
<b>Fire/rescue</b> (non-emergency)	703-691-2131	<b>Gang Unit-Police</b>	703-246-4567
<b>Human Services</b>	703-222-0880	<b>Library, Oakton</b>	703-242-4020
<b>Park Authority</b>	703-324-8700	<b>Police</b> (non-emergency)	703-691-2131
<b>Tax Information</b>	703-222-8234	<b>Recreation Classes</b>	703-324-5514
<b>Recycling InfoLine</b>	703-324-5052	<b>School-Age Child Care Program</b>	703-449-8989
<b>School Board</b>	571-423-1075	<b>Senior Citizen Information</b>	703-324-7948
<b>Traffic Tickets</b>	703-246-3764	<b>Trash Pick-up</b>	703-324-5230
<b>VDOT</b>	703-383-8368	<b>Voting Information</b>	703-222-0776

Please call 703-FAIRFAX (703-324-7329), TTY 711 for other county related information.

Copies of the 2007 Providence Resource Directory are available by calling the Providence District Supervisor's office and are also available on the Providence District Web site at

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/providence/Prov\\_News.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/providence/Prov_News.htm) ▪



Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. Special accommodations will be provided upon request. For information call our office at 703-560-6946, TTY 711.